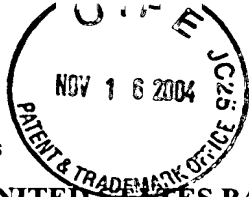


Docket No. 250056US3DIV/ims



*the*

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: Hirotoshi TAWARA, et al.

SERIAL NO: 10/820,735

GAU: 1744

FILED: April 9, 2004

EXAMINER: SPISICH, MARK

FOR: CLEANING DEVICE

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.97

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

Applicant(s) wish to disclose the following information.

REFERENCES

☒ The applicant(s) wish to make of record the references cited in the attached European Search Report listed on the attached form PTO-1449. Copies of the listed references are attached, where required, as are either statements of relevancy or any readily available English translations of pertinent portions of any non-English language references.

☐ A check or credit card payment form is attached in the amount required under 37 CFR §1.17(p).

RELATED CASES

☐ Attached is a list of applicant's pending application(s), published application(s) or issued patent(s) which may be related to the present application. In accordance with the waiver of 37 CFR 1.98 dated September 21, 2004, copies of the cited pending applications are not provided. Cited published and/or issued patents, if any, are listed on the attached PTO form 1449.

☐ A check or credit card payment form is attached in the amount required under 37 CFR §1.17(p).

CERTIFICATION

☒ Each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

☐ No item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to the knowledge of the undersigned, having made reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

DEPOSIT ACCOUNT

☒ Please charge any additional fees for the papers being filed herewith and for which no check or credit card payment is enclosed herewith, or credit any overpayment to deposit account number 15-0030. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,  
MAYER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

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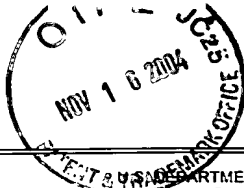
22850

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Form PTO 1449  
(Mod. 7/97)U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

ATTY DOCKET NO.

250056US3DIV

SERIAL NO.

10/820,735

## LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT

APPLICANT

Hirotoshi TAWARA, et al.

FILING DATE

April 9, 2004

GROUP

1744

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	AA	4,640,539	02/03/1987	Allen R. LA PORTE			
	AB	4,642,831	02/17/1987	Eric M. ROTH			
	AC						
	AD						
	AE						
	AF						
	AG						
	AH						
	AI						
	AJ						
	AK						
	AL						
	AM						
	AN						

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	TRANSLATION	
					YES	NO
	AO	299 13 845	12/02/1999	GERMANY		X
	AP					
	AQ					
	AR					
	AS					
	AT					
	AU					
	AV					

## OTHER REFERENCES (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)

	AW	Patent Abstracts of Japan, JP 11-206698, August 3, 1999			
	AX	Patent Abstracts of Japan, JP 7-327912, December 19, 1995			
	AY	Patent Abstracts of Japan, JP 4-244128, September 1, 1992			
	AZ				<input type="checkbox"/> Additional References sheet(s) attached

Examiner

Date Considered

\*Examiner: Initial if reference is considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.